Questions emailed in with answers

- Can ESRI shape files be supplied for the extents of the sites to be surveyed?
 - A. We have Shapefiles, I am not sure when in the RFQ process they should be supplied
- Does the licensed surveyor need to be a Mississippi Licensed Surveyor? Can this be a licensed surveyor of another state that is currently in pursuit of a Mississippi State License?
 - A. The individual needs to be a certified hydrographic surveyor. The Licensed Hydrographic Surveyor can be certified through the IHO,NOAA or State.
- Section 25.0 States a resume is required to include education and experience in the areas described in section 1.1. Section 18.0 asks for discussion of the people assigned to the project. Are resumes required for all persons assigned to the project? Or just the key members?
 - A. Key members should be fine to access qualifications.
- Section 1.7 states "Final tasks and timelines will be developed as part of a contractual agreement between the successful Contractor and the MDMR, based on the Contractors qualifications, this RFQ and MDMR funding available for this project." There is a price line item within Appendix A. Is a price required at this stage?
 - A. No
- We assume that NOAA specifications for side scan sonar acquisition for tow fish height, confidence check, etc. apply. Is this correct, or are there MS DMR specifications on side scan sonar acquisition?
 - A. NOAA specifications are sufficient.
- What is the required resolution for the side scan sonar mosaic?
 - A. Multi-beam and side scan capable of detecting significant features measuring at least 1m X 1m X 1m in waters up to 30 meters, and a cube measuring 5% of the depth in waters greater than 30meters. Grid Resolution shall be 0.5 Meters in waters up to 30meters and a resolution 2.5% of the water depth in depths greater than 30meters. Position reports and deliverable shall be recorded in meters with a precision of at least decimeters. This precision shall be maintained throughout the processing pipeline and digital data.
- Can you specify a standard scale for the Plats/Maps?
 - A. Plat/Maps to be provided (~22" X34") and digital format compatible with ArcMap. Maps shall be of an appropriate scale and include lat/long and X/Y coordinates for the surveyed reef sites and identified features. Coordinates to be furnished along with all vertical data will be referenced to Mean Lower Low water (MLLW). The Following items will be identified and illustrated on the certified survey plats:
 - 1. Boundaries for each artificial reef site
 - 2. Minimum clearance over each artificial reef structure/significant feature
 - 3. Approximate boundary outline for each artificial reef structures/significant feature
 - 4. Bathymetry within each permitted reef site

Rendered multi-beam and side scan imagery provided in a geo-referenced file format for importation direction into a geographic information system

Questions emailed in with answers

Gridded XYZ files of processed multi-beam and side scan data provide the center and corner points along with clearances for each structure in excel table

- Are there any standards for determining what constitutes a holiday (gap) in the gridded multibeam coverage? Are there requirements for gridding the multibeam data including the use of interpolation techniques?
 - A. Gaps have not been defined as part of the IFQ, thus interpolations techniques have not been defined. However, the answer to the question regarding grids may help provide an answer to this question.
- Item 1.3, Scope of Work and Services, states that the contractor will be "a licensed professional surveyor". Will the state of Mississippi allow a surveyor licensed in another state to certify the reef positions?
 - A. Yes, Needs to be a certified hydrographic surveyor
- Can you please confirm that the scope of work includes all 15 existing artificial reef sites, and all 8 of the current rigs to reef sites?
 - A. Yes it includes all 15 Fish Havens and the 8 current rigs to reefs
- Can you please provide water depth ranges for the areas to be surveyed?
 - A. 5m to 105m
- Item 1.4.4. states that gridded XYZ files are to be provided of the processed multibeam and sidescan sonar. While this is a standard format for bathymetry, this is not appropriate for sidescan data. Will XTF format or geotiff format for inclusion in ArcGIS be acceptable for sidescan sonar?
 - A. Multi-beam and side scan capable of detecting significant features measuring at least 1m X 1m X 1m in waters up to 30 meters, and a cube measuring 5% of the depth in waters greater than 30meters. Grid Resolution shall be 0.5 Meters in waters up to 30meters and a resolution 2.5% of the water depth in depths greater than 30meters. Position reports and deliverable shall be recorded in meters with a precision of at least decimeters. This precision shall be maintained throughout the processing pipeline and digital data.
 - B. Plat/Maps to be provided (~22" X34") and digital format compatible with ArcMap. Maps shall be of an appropriate scale and include lat/long and X/Y coordinates for the surveyed reef sites and identified features. Coordinates to be furnished along with all vertical data will be referenced to Mean Lower Low water (MLLW). The Following items will be identified and illustrated on the certified survey plats:
 - 1. Boundaries for each artificial reef site
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Rendered multi-beam and side scan imagery provided in a geo-referenced file format for importation direction into a geographic information system Gridded XYZ files of processed multi-beam and side scan data

Questions emailed in with answers

provide the center and corner points along with clearances for each structure in excel table

Upon review of the RFP and amendment EA Engineering Science and Technology's team is submitting the following questions:

- 1) Page 2 of 31, Section 1.3 the text refers to a licensed professional surveyor. We assume that due to the distance offshore this description refers to an International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) certified hydrographer, versus a Mississippi Professional Licensed Surveyor (PLS). Is that correct? A certified hydrographic surveyor is all that is required.
- 2) Page 3 of 31, Section 1.6.1 We would like to confirm that both multibeam backscatter and side scan sonar data are required for each of the Rigs to Reefs and Artificial Reef Sites regardless of water depth. If so, what are the preferred side scan sonar frequencies and maximum range for each sonar channel?
- A. Multi-beam and side scan capable of detecting significant features measuring at least 1m X 1m X 1m in waters up to 30 meters, and a cube measuring 5% of the depth in eaters greater than 30 meters. Grid Resolution shall be 0.5 Meters in waters up to 30meters and a resolution 2.5% of the water depth in depths greater than 30 meters. Position reports and deliverable shall be recorded in meters with a precision of at least decimeters. This precision shall be maintained throughout the processing pipeline and digital data.
- B. Plat/Maps to be provided (~22" X34") and digital format compatible with ArcMap. Maps shall be of an appropriate scale and include lat/long and X/Y coordinates for the surveyed reef sites and identified features. Coordinates to be furnished along with all vertical data will be referenced to Mean Lower Low water (MLLW). The Following items will be identified and illustrated on the certified survey plats:
 - i. Boundaries for each artificial reef site
 - ii. Minimum clearance over each artificial reef structure/significant feature
 - iii. Approximate boundary outline for each artificial reef structures/significant feature
 - iv. Bathymetry within each permitted reef site
 - b. Rendered multi-beam and side scan imagery provided in a geo-referenced file format for importation direction into a geographic information system
 - c. Gridded XYZ files of processed multi-beam and side scan data
 - d. provide the center and corner points along with clearances for each structure in excel table
- 3) Page 4 of 31, Section 1.6.3 The RFQ does not state specific requirements or standards for horizontal and vertical accuracies of positioning data/correctors. Is MDMR anticipating the use of the NOAA survey standard (USCG DGPS and tide zones) or an advanced approach (bottom mounted tide gauges in combination with real time kinematic corrections broadcast from a fixed platform)?

Questions emailed in with answers

- A. See above for answers to these questions. In addition NOAA survey standards apply
- 4) Page 9 of 31, Section 4.4.14 If our "original" response package is formally submitted via the MAGIC site, does MDMR still require that bound "copies" of the submittal be forwarded via courier and/or US mail on or before the closing date?

A. No

5) Page 14 of 31, Section 24.0 The text describing the compensation for services under this contract appears to be on a Time and Materials (T&M) basis with a negotiated "not-to-exceed" ceiling. Is that correct?

A. Yes

6) Page 29 of 31, Attachment A Upon review there is a line provided for Price #1 (total for all services listed). Given this is a request for Qualifications versus Request for Quote, does MDMR requires a T&M estimate to provide the services described in our technical approach that will be negotiated after selection?

A. No , Please see correct Attachment A.

Additionally, it does not appear that price will be part of the formal evaluation process outlined on Page 12 of 31, Section 18. Is that correct?

A. Yes

7) Is it all multbeam side scan sonar?

A. Yes

- 8) Are you looking for RFQ responses from specifically Mississippi based firms?
 - A. We would like to work with Mississippi based firms, however, we have no criteria to select Mississippi based firm. The criteria are set up for best qualified firm.
- 9) Are there any specific tidal bench marks?
 - A. Mean low low water & NOAA Standards
- 10) What RFQ format would you like the submittal to be in?
 - A. DMR prefers the resume, qualifications, previous work experience in this field. The previous should include examples of final products.
- 11) If submitting paper format please provide 5 copies of submittal.

Questions emailed in with answers

Attachment A- RFQ FORM

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES 1141 BAYVIEW AVENUE, SUITE 101 BILOXI, MS 39530

This is to certify that the Contractor submitting this written RFQ has been in business since Employer Identification Number:
Prior Project of Comparable Complexity: (Project, Location, Reference Person, Phone Number)
1
2
2 3
NOTE: PLEASE USE A SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET TO DISCUSS SCOPE OF PROJECTS LISTED ABOVE.
Attach plan giving as much detail as is practical explaining how the services will be performed.
Time frame for completion of project:
Contractor's Name:
Address/Principal Place of Business:
Phone Number:Size of Business:
Address /Place of Performance of Proposed Contract:
Phone Number:Fax Number:

CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION

The Contractor certifies that the prices submitted in response to the solicitation have been arrived at independently and without – for the purpose of restricting competition – any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Contractor or competitor relating to those prices, the intention to submit a proposal, or the methods or factors used to calculate prices.